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UNO Researchers Develop a World Standard for Equipment Boundaries and Identifiers

New Orleans, LA – Researchers at Gulf Coast Region Maritime Technology Center at University of New Orleans (UNO), working with a team of industry and government collaborators, have developed a new international standard for the collection and exchange of Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability (RAM) data via ASTM International. This standard for equipment boundaries and identifiers provides the required framework to share equipment data among organizations, to benchmark equipment performance, to perform modeling and simulation of current and proposed systems, and to use performance data to improve operations of commercial and Naval vessels.

Led by Dr. Bahadir Inozu, the Chairman and a Professor of UNO's School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, the research team has worked with an Advisory Board from the military and industry to guide the process. The board had representatives from Northrop Grumman Ship Systems, Naval Sea Systems Command, and American Bureau of Shipping among others. The standard was reviewed and approved by the ASTM International F25 Committee

Sponsored by Office of Naval Research Manufacturing Technology Program, the project first looked at various existing identification systems. A class library and object properties was developed for ship equipment. Guidelines for custom classes of equipment were also created, providing flexibility for future applications.

The development of a world standard for equipment boundaries and identifiers will help facilitate accuracy and timely exchange of data between military and civilian institutions, ship manufacturers and operators, and all those involved with maintaining shipboard equipment. The consistency of this standard will allow improved shipbuilding, ship operation, and ship maintenance. Copies of the standard may be obtained from the ASTM by visiting www.astm.org.

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